Meeting Overview

• General Plan Update (GPU) Overview

• Environmental review process under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

• Solicit comments on scope of issues to address in environmental document:
  – Environmental issues
  – Ways to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts
    • Mitigation Measures
    • Alternatives
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE OVERVIEW
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PHASES AND MILESTONES

1. Initiate Project

2. Prepare the Background Report

3. Affirm the Vision and Guiding Principles

4. Evaluate Alternatives
   Winter 2017 to Fall 2018

5. Prepare the Draft General Plan
   Fall 2018 to Summer 2019

6. Conduct Environmental Review
   Winter 2018 to Spring 2020

7. Prepare Final Documents and Adoption
   Winter 2019 to Spring 2020
Proposed 2040 General Plan Update

• First comprehensive update since 1988, will set forth vision for unincorporated Ventura County out to 2040
• Based on Board-approved Land Use Alternative:
  – Existing zoning designations can accommodate projected population growth through 2040
  – New land use designations apply only to areas with existing designations of Existing Community and Urban
  – New General Plan designations clarify allowable land uses and building densities/intensities, consistent with existing zoning
  – Development increases relative to existing Plan not expected, unless required to meet future housing need (RHNA)
  – No change to Rural, Agricultural, or Open Space designations
Proposed 2040 General Plan Update

- Consistent with Guidelines for Orderly Development, greenbelt agreement, and SOAR measures
- Address new planning requirements and guidelines:
  - Environmental justice
  - Healthy communities
  - Sustainability
- Integrated Climate Action Plan
  - vulnerability analysis
  - goals/policies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change
Purpose and Requirements of CEQA

• **Inform decision makers and public** about potential, significant environmental consequences of proposed activities
• Identify ways environmental damage can be **avoided or significantly reduced** through alternatives or mitigation measures the agency finds **are feasible**
• Foster **public participation** and interagency collaboration
• **Disclose** reasons why agency approves a project when significant environmental effects are involved
Environmental Review Timeline

- **Notice of Preparation**
  - January 14, 2019 to February 19, 2019

- **Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**
  - now through Fall/Winter 2019

- **EIR Public Review Period**
  - Winter 2019/2020

- **Prepare Responses to Comments and Final EIR**
  - Winter/Spring 2020

- **Board of Supervisors Decision on General Plan Update and EIR**
  - Spring 2020
SCOPING MEETING PURPOSE
Purpose of Tonight’s Meeting

- For County to receive comments on “scope” of issues to address in EIR
  - Environmental topics
  - Ways to avoid or substantially lessen significant environmental impacts (Mitigation measures, alternatives)

- EIR scope includes environmental topics addressed in:
  - CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines
  - County’s 2011 Initial Study Assessment Guidelines

- EIR will address environmental issues raised in scoping comments
Environmental Resource Topics

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forest Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards/Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Land Use/Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population/Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities/Service Systems
- Wildfire
Comments are Encouraged!

- Environmental topics for analysis
- Ways to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts (mitigation measures or alternatives)
- Comments will be included in the record
- Send written comments to:
  Susan Curtis, Manager, General Plan Update Section
  800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740
  Ventura, CA 93009-1740
  susan.curtis@ventura.org
  (805) 654-2509 (fax)

- Written comments due: 5:00pm on February 19, 2019
Questions?

Join our interested parties list email: clay.downing@ventura.org

Learn more at VC2040.org